The Silk Ribbon Crade of Switzerland.

5747157108 OF THE TOWN OF BASLE—ITS THADE,
FOTULATION AND GOVERNMENT—AN OLIOARORY
OF WEALTH—A PLAN OF MATURING A SILK RIBBON
TRADE IN THE UNITED STATES—ITS COST AND

Besie is considered the wealthfest town in the world a relation to its small population, which to day reaches arely the number of 30 000 inhabitants, foreigners in-This wealth has been hoarded up during the last such that we want has seen noward up turing the same hundred and fifty years—since the introduction of sad through the ribbon manufacture carried on there.

The town of Basic, with the three villages belonging to it, forms but half a canton out of the twenty-two of the carried on the same transfer.

which the Swiss Confederation is composed. The govern-ment is oligarchic, notwithstanding its democratic ap-measure, and all the power of it resides with a score of s, not by the force of any special law, but by the ower of their money and habits. Their families are trong y united by continued intermarriages, and whoures to counteract their influence is sure to loss heir patronage, which is the shief means of subsistence in the little town. Ine citizens of Balse are great church-gors and epicureans; as for politics they care but little, and on poll days seldomone-taird of the voters come for-ward, and they willingly abandon both the deliberative and executive part of the government to the "Vorneh-men Herren," who have every thing meir own way. These Vornehmen Herren, rather than submit to the claims of the country people for universal suffrage, managed to asparate the town from the country, in order not to run the risk of having one day to combat a union of the free voters of the country with the few mal-soniants in town.

The ditch and walls which encompass this if the town are of no minitary use, still they are retained and repaired

are of no minitary use, still they are retained and repared every year with great c at, because they serve t keep the town from an extension which possibly might endanger the sligarchic power, and which of necessity would bring about the dreaded reunion with the country, (Basieland.) About one-third of the area of the twen of hade a minit in garden lands in the hands of the west-law situates.

(Basisland.) About one-third of the area of the town of hale as neists in garden lands in the hands of the wealthy citizens.

Funce the political separation of Basis-town from Basis-country, several silk-ribbon manufactories have been entablished in the latter, and she within the neigh bring cantons of Argovics and Solotourn. Therefore, the militenaires of Basis, busy themselves to withdraw by degrees their looms from the country, and to concentrate their industry in large buildings in the town. This, of course, is objected to by the country people, and erestes much dissatisfaction among them, because they do not like to leave their villages and mountains, and to aggregate in manufactories in the town. They would scoose emigrate if fair chances were offered to them to exercise their industry in the United States.

The safest mode to carry on and to naturalize in the United States the silk industry, would set begin with the manufacture of plain silk ribbons of all kinds, for caps, creases, have and shoes; and also of plain silk goods as florence, tallorson, saints and levanseens. The same home would serve also for the manufacture of cotton ribbons which our Quakeresses draw now from England.

By the skill of our medbanies, great improvemant in the adaptation of steam power to this new branch of industry may safely be expected. Ground, outiliting materials, soals and victuals, are far cheaper, say in Philadelphia than in Basile, which is enough to counterbalance the effects of the cheaper is not Turkey, may, even from Prance and Italy, than in the Inlant towns of swizzeland and Prussis, who draw the raw silk from foreign parts, and still are able to run down in our markets the manufacturies of France and traly.

It is well known that the import duty on raw silk has been created in order to encourage silk production in Virgina. Now tols scheme has proved a total failure, and nothing remains of it but the byword to created of the morus multicaulit spec'. Today a protectionary duty on this sort of raw material is of

and try, and ought to be scolained when the protection of the present import duty on silk goods would be sufficient to call into life an industry which win ratain in our country twenty millions of deliars on plain silk goods, for which we are tributary now to old Europe; and, in the other hand, it would increase our commercial relations with China and Turkey for at least ten millions of deliars worth of raw silk, an article which our trademen cannot touch under present circumstances, and which is left to their rivals in England, France and Germany.

ermany.

In New York there are already some solitary silk looms twork; but as long as the dyed silk has to be drawn em France, and with an import duty, too, of 15 per mat, this industry will not take. And as long as this apport duty lasts an experiment on a large scale is not

k visable.

A silk ribbon establishment, in order to be complete, rants its own cycleg apparatus, and caunet, therefore, se opened at a cost of less than \$200,000. But then the meroprise is sure to succeed and to compete with any other, especially so with a protective duty of 25 per cent. In order the better to illustrate my assertion, I reactione a plan fir the establishment of a plain silk rib-bon manufactory, consisting of 100 satin and 50 taffeta comes, worked by steam, with the assistance of about 188 different work people. To tais plan are added, also, some samples of jibbons, with a calculation of their cost of manufacture:—

On the above number of looms the following quantity of ribbons may be manufactured to evelve months' time, viz.: On 100 looms, 21,680 warps of eatin ribbons, No. 6, of 17 lines, and on 50 looms, 7,000 warps of saffers ribbons, No. 9, of 23 lines 1-12 inch; each of 144 metres the warp.
manufacturing of the above quantity of ribbons requires the following sums:—
lbs. Organises warp, at the cs in tail 1864. (31: and 51. to 337,085 00

\$ 175 bs. Organsees warp, at the price in Isis 1855. (31. and 55. to tase desiar). \$ 32,085 09

5 255 lbs. trame alling at the price in 18 1854, 276. (57. the doilar). 28,755 00

There "dechete" 5 per cent on the raceve sum. 3,042 00

To wind the silk 10c. the lb., (only because raw mak is employed here) 1,000 00

18 warping girls. 1,892 12

25 weavers, at 35c. the warp. 7,344 00

10 specimaters, (cannatieres) 1,040 00

For wood plus. 302 40

Osst of cycing, 40c. a b 4,200 00

Glossing, (aspret) 1,020 00

Solution of gelatine for the glossing 200 00

Eight workmen and packers. 305 40

Capital required for the setting to work the

Capital required for the setting up of the whole establishment. \$174,346 4

Recaptulation of the principal points of the above.
Cost of busiding and steam power. \$10,400 00

Weaving apparatus 17,866 00
Cost of silks and loss thereon 104,603 40
Ribbons on hand 4,000 00
Dyving & giossing, materials inclu'd 6,663 60
Pay to 180 various work people 19,786 60
Cost of wood pins, paper and folding. 628 40
Pay to clerks and work people in the stere rooms 2,988 40
Cost 1,200 00

Capital required to start this industrial en-terprise.....

-which brings the piece of 14 2-5th metres length at about 425cc. United States money.

Cost of the fi-King and warp worked on the fifty taffe a loc ms, as above \$29,121 40.

Dyelog \$1,445 60.

Warping and weaving \$469 40.

Wood plus, paper, folding and packing \$250 00.

Sundry work people, cierks, &c. 1,600 00. 896 80

erest....

HARRISBURG, Feb. 13, 1856. Passage of the Act for Incorporating the Franciscan Brothers-The Liquor Bill-The Fusion Movement-The National Americans Won't Fus -Discouraging Prospects of Fillmere-Th Weather, &c., &c.

The act to incorporate the Franciscan Brothers, of Cambria county, after five days of lively discussion, passed the House finally yesterday, by a vote of 60 to 29, every democratic member but one voting for the bill—that member fearing that he would be read out of his party for voting with the Know Nothings, this morning submitted his reasons in writing, and asked that they might be placed on record. The reasons that he gave for going over to the Know Nothings in that vote was that he considered the incorporating of that society belonged to the Courts, and not to the Legislature. I doubt very much if his statement prevents their giving him his walking papers. Let his democratic brethren do with him as they may for casting that vote as he did, he cer tainly in that act will receive the thanks of all can did thinking men, who are not bound down and trammelled with party discipline, or controlled by

tainly in that act will receive the thauks of all candid thinking men, who are not bound down and trammelled with party discipline, or controlled by party dictation.

Those persons applying for this incorporation are applying under monkish names, and it is, beyond a doubt, a "monastic institution" similar to those that existed during the dark ages of history, whose object it is to gradually and steathilly arrest the onward march of the liberty of the mind. Every legislator should take warning from the immense evils experienced by the nations of the Old World in these societies; and at once rebuke all attempts to establish them upon our soil. This bill received the final vote in the House, and passed by a strict party vote. It now goes to the Senate, where there will be also a long and spirited debate upon it, and if the votes of the Senators are controlled by party dictation the bill will pass that body by one majority. The democrats cannot do a better thing to strengthen the American party in this State than by incorporating such societies as the Third Order of the Franciscan Brothers.

The liquor bill is still being discussed in the Senate. They have reached, on the second reading, the twelfth section of the bill offered by Mr. Brown, of Philadelphia, or as it is termed here the "Demijohn law." It prohibits the sale of liquor in less quantities than one gallon. Under the present law we need buy only a quart to drink, but if this bill becomes an act, we then shall be compelled to buy a gallon, either to wet our whistle or for a medicinal purpose. There is a strong probability of this bill passing the Senate, but it never can pass the lower house; hence, in what shape the two houses will compromise the matter, the future alone can tell; at least, it is impossible to guess, under the present phase of things.

The fusion movement is still quictly progressing. They have been meeting and adjourning from time to time without doing anything, in hopes that some astounding news would be received from Kansas, that they this fusion movement, but the Governor is said to be unwilling to make any public move until he sees what his chance is in the convention of the 22d of this month. You men who want to see "Sam" and "Sambo"

this month.

You men who want to see "Sam" and "Sambo" hugging and kissing each other may fix up this fusion or mongrel platform to suit yourselves, and then elect your ticket—if you can. You will find that just about the time you think you have got "Sam" tied up, he will be the harrabing for "Live Oak George," and cursing the woolly keads in general. I see that your Philadelphia correspondent states that a unjority of the delegates from this State are for Fillmore; and if the nomination rested upon the delegates from the Keystone State, the Ex-President would be nominated by acclammatien. He cannot be very well conversant with the politics of the interior of the State, or he would never have made that assertion. As far as I have been shie to gather the views of the delegates elected, they are all opposed to Fillmore, with the exception of those from Philadelphia, and the adjoining counties. The delegates as far as heard from, are all purely national men, and are not tinctured in any way with republicanism; but they are far from being all Fillmore men. Law and even Houston is ahead of Fillmore; either of which will run better in this State after you get outside of Philadelphia than the ex-President.

If the opinnons of those persons that from time to time congregate here from all parts of the State is any criterion to go by as to the public feeling in the State, Fillmore cannot in any possible circumstance carry the State, if nominated. It would be impossible for him to poll anywhere near his party vote. If Fillmore is nominated, the &emocratic candidate wheever he may be, will carry this State. The delegates that assemble in Philadelphia on the 22d, had better remember that if they wish to be successful.

successful.

The democrats appear to be quietly looking on, and awaiting the action of the convention on the 22d, to see how they can shape their course, so as to steer clear of breakers.

We had one of those down east cold and cutting the course, where the course of the course is the content of the course of

We had one of those down east cold and cutting days yesterday. The mercury in the thermometer went down twenty-one degrees in four hours in the afternoon. In the morning it was thawing, and in the afternoon a blustering northwester came roaring along with all its fury. Long may it be before we look upon its like again.

VISITES.

Management of the City Ruthroads-Risks of Passengers.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

New York, Feb. 21, 1856.

Recently, as is your wont, whenever the public good is concerned, you administered a well merited castigation to some of the directors of the city railroads. But you ex concerned, you administered a well merited castigation to some of the directors of the city railroads. But you excepted somewhat those of the Fighth avenus line. I am sorry to state from the experience derived from frequently travelling on this road, that, in one respect at least, its management is "much of a muchnoss?" with that of the other lines. I mean that of overpacking the care there being, nightly, as many as sixty passengers hasging on and crowded in each care. This is carried to suce an extent, that a gang of thieves, acting in concert, take advantage of the circumstance to piy the craft of pick-pockets. By way of a warning to others, I will first mention the manner in which, in an Eighth avenue carbetween Twentieth and Thirtieth streets, two ladies, relatives of mine, in the employ of Messys. Carponter & Ida. Broadway, were cased of their portensensies on Saturday evening last. As it is usual in these cars for novices, preferably to yield heir seals to such doll ireased women as they mistake for ladies, picapockets awall themselves a fellow with a "swell mob" monchoir is his breast, and homemes watchguard and otherwise snobbishly dressed plays the galant to some ladies who are left to stand. He imperiously demands of some men opposite, confederates, in a working garb, why they don't give their sea's to these ladies. These sham workles retort by saying, the "big bug," with the rag is his breast, ought to set the first example. Mutual compliments pass and repass; high words ensue; a sham fight result; a general scuffle; women alarmed, half hysterial; de moviment: a number of ladies find their pockets lightened; a call for the police; one seen in the distance—sharp reflecement's a number of ladies find their pockets lightened; a call for the police; one seen in the distance—sharp reflecement's control of the seen in the distance—sharp reflecement's care as the seen in the distance—sharp reflecement's care as the seen in the distance—sharp reflecement's care as the seen in the distance—sharp reflecement' AFFAIRS IN EUROPE.

Our Paris, Madrid, Edinburg and Rome Correspondence, BO.,

PARIS, Jan. 30, 1856.

The Peace Congress—The Struggle for its Localization Louis Napoleon's Anxiety to have it Held in Paru-His Exultation at the Accomplishment of his Wishes—The Parsians in the Seventh Heaven of Delight—The Politica Quid Nuncs taken Aback by Russia's Acceptance of the Austrian Propositions—Language of the Russian Organs —Grand Court Reception on the Anniversary of Louis Napoleon's Marriage—Americans Present, dc., dc. My conjectures in reference to the place of conference

have proved true. You perceive that Paris is to have the honor of giving its name to the new peace which is about to dawn upon the world. Information, on which I could thoroughly rely, induced me to infer that Napoleon's darling purpose would be obtained. There were objections, and Frankfort had very nearly borne away the prize, but Napoleon was, as usual, tenacious, and carried his point. It was urged that the war had as-sumed so French a character that it was not politic to sumed so French a character that it was not pouted to strengthen it by making the peace a Parisian one; that lagland was, beyond measure, sore at the insignificant rôle she had played—that she detested this premature patching up of the Russian quarrel—that it required bu breath to fan some dangerous sparks into a blaze; but he Emperor was inexorable.

on has an intuitive perception whenever the Napoteon has an intuitive perception whenever the national pride is at stake; and it is impossible to overestimate the joy and delight which the comparatively trifling circumstance—trifling, at least, in the view of ordinary men—of the capital of France being selected has everywhere afforded. As for Paris itself, if it had heard, like ancient Rome, of its perpetual exemption from tax ation—of the reduction of provisions by a moiety in price
of rents having fatien from a thousand france a chamber to fire hundred—of a file every week, and a gratuitous ticket to the adorable speciacie every night, it could not be more exuberant in its self-gratulations. The Parisian sponge shall wipe out for ever, it is said, the hand-writing of the treaties of Vienna; and Paris, which is the centre of the arts, of arms, of the world's civilization whose heart never throbs but to quicken the pulsation more take her rightful place as the initiator, the origin ator of the world's prosperity. Waterloo's ensanguined plain is remembered no more, for it is avenged. The exile and premature death of her greatest son and conquerous consigned to the dust of history, for his descendent site on the throne, and the very nations which are responsib'e for his accentral degradation stand at his council beard and register his behests. It would be absurd to deny that the recent movement in political events has eminently conduced to the popularity and presige of Louis Napo leon. The sudden conversion of Russia to pacific measure has confounded the wisest. The oldest and most wary poli ticians are taken aback, and as nothing does really succeed like success, many who have hitherto obstinutely resisted all claims to sagacity set up by the partisans of the Emperor, begin to have doubts of themselves, and to ery "who would have thought it! The war has really tasted long enough to give confidence to the French arms and just when the pressure was about to be felt, lo! as by divinity."

to the contrary, it is difficult to believe that Russia has not accepted the propositions in all sincerity. The words of the Journal de St. Petersbury are transmess itself:—

of the Journal de St. Petersbury are frankness itself:—
In pursuance of this accord, in pursuance of the wishes manifested by the shole of Europe, and in face of a coalitien which tended to assume larger proportions, and looking at the sacrifices which the protongation of the war imposes on Russis, the imperial government has not thought it its duty to postpose by accessory discussion a work of conciliation, the suncess of which would satisfy its dearest wakes. It consequently gives its ad herion to propositions transmitted by the Austrian government as a project for preliminaries for negotiation for peace. It requires very considerable ingenuity to distort las

guage such as this, and the fact is so consonant with all previous report, that to disbelieve its sincerity would

previous report, that to disbelieve its sincerity would seem gratuitous incredubility.

The concluding passage is in keeping:—"By her energe ic stitude in presence of a formidable conition, Rusda has shown the sacrifices which she is ready to making defence of her honor and dignity. By this act of makeration the imperial government gives at the same times fresh proof of its sincere desire of terminating the efficiency of the short of the side of the same times from his control of the side of patting an end to a strungle affecting her civilization and humanity, and of restoring to Russia and Europe the blessings of pasce. It has a right to expect that the opinions of all civilized countries will give it due credit for this moderation."

I bever remember so much unanimity among all politicians of every shade as reigns at present. No one seem to have wan ed to go one step farther against Russia. Everybody appears delighted at the prospect of seeing the Russians back sgain in France. This electral Augumenta is sickering, say some, and worse than Russophobia. The fact is Russomaria blife fair to be the future order of the day. There is only one journal, the Sicole, the republican organ, that utters a dissenting voice, and it is certain this trepublicans generally are sorry to see the hope of nationalities so suddenly eclipsed. Still, I think this regret is bals need by the conviction that the proscution of the war would have tended to the aggrandization of England rather than France.

nationatities so suddenly eclipsed. Still, I think this regret is halonced by the conviction that the prosecution of the war would have tended to the aggrandization of England rather than France.

The queen of England's speech on the re-assembling of the British Parliament, is looked forward to by all Frenchmen with almost greater interest than in England. There the utmost disappointment prevails at the pacific prospect. People were just becoming warm to the new order of thirgs. It is true, a ten per cent income tax awasted them, but the agriculturists were in high good humor—corn was getting up deally. A large portion of the agricultural tenantry had secured leases on the principle that fifty shillings a quarier would in ture be a top price, and the war was grantally pushing it up to double that amount. The countes which are usually so conservative and fatal to Lord Palmerston's party at an election, would have given the Palmerstoman policy a large majority. But these are details which have no interest for this side of the water. The queen's speech and the published debates will clear up much that is at present consens—he precise position of the approaching nego lations—the hopes and fears of England—and last, not least—the star of Reining about the Central American question, which at present bids fair to be the great topic of excitement for 1856, rather than the Russian difficulty.

Yesterday the Emperor and Empress completed the third anniversary of their marriage. The interesting pristion of her Mijesty rendered the congratuations which she received onubly impressive; but it was observed that more than once she wiped away a tear as she received the cooksion in the evening. Among the Americans present were Mr. and Mrs. Bronson, Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield. Miss Jolis Ann May, Mr. and Mrs. Yan Zanct, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Murphy and Miss Mora, and Mrs. Stovens.

M. I. G. Howard—all of whom, the Sunday previous, had been presented to the Emperor by the Hon. Mr. Msson, Minister of the United States.

Pane, Jan. 31, 1

PANIS, Jan. 31, 1856.

Effect of the Peace News on Public Securities—Discontent of
the Old Muscovile Party with Alexander—A Revolution in
Russia Talked of—Dangers of a Fiasco at the Peace Conference—American Politics Becoming the Reigning To-pic of Interest—Secretary Marcy and the Paris Corres-pondent of the New York Herald—A Fossil Goose and a French Canard, dc.
Buoyancy, great and exuberant, is the order of th

Buoyancy, great and exuberant, is the order of the day. Securities of all kinds have shot up and are still continuing to do so with a velocity perfectly petrifying. The three per cents, which this day fortnight were little above 62, are now 71. This is a go-ahead-ism which even the United States might envy. All is couleur de rose and the pacificators, du order to make assurance doubly sure, and keep Great Britain disposed to look at the "degotiatious" through their spectacles, are stoking Johany down the back, and administering a little sour sawder. "Don't say so, dear Johnny; you fericited no reputation at the Redan, and if you lost Kars, you could reputation at the Redan, and II you lost Nars, you could not help it. Never talk about your influence in the Asiatic provinces being none below zero; look at the ruined docks of Sebastopol, and remember the equilibrium of Europe." John Bull pouts and looks glum, and some times elenches his fist as though he would much like to eputation at the Redan, and if you lost Kars, you coul give his comforting friend a puzeh under his waistcoat but thinks better of it, and turns away.

but thinks better of it, and turns away.

It remains to be seen, notwithstanding the hi arioustate of the money market, whether these joyful anticipations are not, after all, fabricating wings of wax which will be strangely given to melt before the heat and gloof the coming conference. Private letters which I see from St. Petersburg and from Germany throw strong doubts on the possibility of a hapostermination of the war. The old Muscovite party in Russia is said to be galled beyond measure at the faint heartedness of Alexander. So strong and bitter is the feeling that it is even asserted a compliance with all the demands which it is promised will be condense within the fifth point would infallibly bring about a revolution at St. Petersburg, ending in the substitution of Constantine for the present occupant of the imperiathrone. These are not mere or dits. I have seen is terfrom parties whose opportunities of knowing the truth from parties whose opportunities of knowing the truth cannot be questioned. Among other things these letter state that but for the hope of inserting the thin end of the wedge which shall ultimately serve to separate the alliance, the Muscovite party would not even now be ulescent; but it is declared that information from Paris of

of such an assuring character on this head has reached them that they think it wise to let the pacific policy run

Indeed, when we consider the many discordant elements which have to be brought in unison by the great conference about to take place, how immensely the spirit of compromise which is so essential to the termination of political as well as social differences, must differ in of compromise which is so easenths to the unit differ in political as well as soofal differences, must differ in England and in Russia—what opportunities will thus be given to France to play the rôle of umpire—how Sardi-nia and Sweden will use all their influence with England nia and Sweden will use all their influence with England to keep the quarrel open—how the proud noblesse of Russia will protest against humiliating concessions—how the personal fears of A exander may be acted upon—how, in the very midst of the negotiations, some nationality may suddenly take heart of grace and seize arms on its own account—one cannot help wondering at the extent of that confidence in a pacific issue which seems so theroughly predominant. This much is certain—should the negotiations share the fate of last year, the war that will break out will prove a perfect European volcano. To say "I doubt, I doubt," when so many wise men say "I'm sure, I'm sure," would be presumption. It is not impossible, however, that you in America, distant as you are from the scene ef our squabbles, may be able to form a more just opinion o the probable issue than ourselves. We shall anxiously look for American comments on the crisis. look for American comments on the crisis.

But America is herself a subject of intense interest at

considered on fail accompli, transatiantic politics are and iously discussed. Should Europe be pacified, it seems to be the opinion in political and diplomatic circles that the administration of the United States will, in this as in many other matters, have proved a day too late for the fair. The lofty tone about the Central American question was as note tone about the Central American question was as much necessary one year, two years age, as now; why not have used it then, when the capture of Sebastopol was a problem, or the landing at Eupatoria was only imminent. Certainly a more unhappy juncture for threatening to kick a man down stairs cannot be imagined than to catch him with a Colt's revolver in his hand, while you yourself have only just become sensible of the want of such a weapon; and yet this is precisely the position the Pierce administration will occupy should a peace be concluded

administration will occupy should a peace be concluded at Paris. Lord Palmerston, with the whole of the Baltis and Mediterranean ideus, armed to the teeth, and straining like "greyhounds in the leash," "fill be able to let slig the dogs of war and devastate far and near the coasts of the United States, while she is only just beginning to rate some additions to her may." Who is always a valorous against shadows, who is the very Bonning to rate some additions to her may."

One cannot help thinking that Mr. Marcy, who is always as valorous against shadows, who is the very Bonning to the state of the control of the co

It was completely enveloped with the sedimentary deposit.
Unfortunately, I am not sufficiently a geologist to be any guide to your reacers in the crecibility of this account. It looks to me so much like as ornitholygical representation of the Pierce administration—"its general form resembling a bat, and its size that of a large goose, exhibiting slight signs of life on reaching the light, (or Presidency of the United States,) then sharing its wings, and soon after expiring, with a hearse cry"—that I can"thelp suspecting it must be one of those living fossile only intelligible to large, capacious minds, such as the American Foreign Secretary. The "sedimentary deposit" here spoken of its so exactly in keeping with Mr. Marcy's loudness in republican simplicity—so abhorrent of shoes and stockings—that it is difficult to believe he does not know all about it.

all about it.

BERGIE.

Our Madrid Correspondence.

MADRID, Jan. 23, 1856.

The Late Ministerial Changes—Public Opinion Repardin. the New Functionaries—Funct Opinion Reparting the New Functionaries—Scandalous Personal Scenes in the Cortes—Deplorable Condition of Public Affairs—Unpopularity of Espartero's Government—Chances of Another Revolution—Commercial Depression—Exciting Scene in Congress between Orense and Gen. O'Donnell.

in Congress between Orense and Gen. O'Donnell.

The ministerial modification having been effected, it appeared natural that the public should wait at least some days before judging of the worth of the new men who have replaced the fallen ministers; but they are known to be of so little integral value that public opi nion came out strongly against them as soon as their names were published, and continues each day stronger and fleroer in its qualifications of them. This has produced the usual rasults. The most sendelous personal names were published, and continues each day stronger and fiercer in its qualifications of them. This has produced the usual results. The most scandalous personal debates are heard in the Congress of Deputies, as if ridiculous personal affairs should be discussed in the assembly, and not the general interests of the nation. The daily press is peuring out all sorts of sarcasms, invectives and rebukes against the government; and so frightful is the reate of chaos and confusion in which we at present are that it appears impossible that things could be worse.

From all this results a state off afairs which must produce melancholy consequences. Sad, but very true, is this picture of the situation of Spain. There is no one content. No matter to what party he may belong, all murmur and launch forth invectives against Esparter, and the "old fogies" of the progresists party, damning a government which appears resolved to crush liberty. Tax payers curse it, for they see its stupidity and its desire to rance old and obnoxious contributions, put down by that revolution without which so many nullities would not have ascended to power. Commerce is paralyzed, industry dying, the arts are dead; each ministerial change introduces confusion and uncertainty into the administration, for the employés know that they will be substituted by new faveries. Nearly all the towns are in rupture with the authorities, and Congress is flooded with petitions begging that its course may be changed, and Spain ransowed from this misery. Party spirit is running high. Everybody works for his own account, trying the possible to verify the Spanish proverb—"Troubled waters, good fishing." Political harreds are getting warmed our runners of all kinds are affoat; narreby intracted in the case of things you add the misoriumes caused by the heavy rains and tempeter, shipwreets and inundations—entice villages swept away by the rising of the rivers—It you consider that necessaries are going up in price all over Spain—when you think that want, like a hungry

are existing among the towns and villages exten up by minery, one cannot to sees than confess that such a state of things cannot endure much longer without a revolution, followed by the commission of horrid crimes.

The answer of the Pope to the Spanish Memorandum has come and is being published by the press. I will take a little time to examine it, and will give you my opinion of it at an early day.

Our financial affairs are in a paralyzed state, and although some persons have believed that the sale of scelesiastical property would afford it some relief, it is certain that up to the present moment it has not been felt, inasmuch as the system continues the same, not having been essentially varied: that is to say, no diminution has been made in salaries nor unnecessary employes.

The stormy weather still continues, with which we have been afflicted more than a month. The United States are not those who will least feel the shipwrocks which occurred on our coasts. There is hardly patience or resignation left for so much suffering.

Last evening, in the Cortee, a sharp debate took place between Orense, one of the leaders of the democrate, and General O'Donnell, Minister of War. Both disputants became very much excited. Orense called the General an apontate to every political jointon which he had ever sustained, and accused him in open Cortee of having enriched himself by political intrigues. O'Dennell was not less sharp on some portion of the personal history of his antagonist, and Orense came bact on him with a declaration that he had knowingly failed in the truth. There was a great excitement among the device, and last evening it was confidently stated that a hostile meeting was to come off between the two parties fe-day. Up to the hour at which I write, nothing of the kind has occurred, and between ourselves, I am of opinion that the affair will end meet amicably.

Our Eddinburg Correspondence.

Our Edinburg Correspondence.

Scotch Gaicy—Religious Toleration Amongst the Descendants of the Old Covenanters—Macaulay's Resignation—Courast for his Successor—Death of two British Millionaters—Lectures on America—Sword of Honor to Str Colin Compatib Colin Campbell-Commerce of Liverpool-More Potson

terest your readers.

Although dull and dreary in the extreme, this is emphatically the gay season in the metropolis of Soutland; as with you, it is the era of assemblies, concerts, balls, dinner parties and the Opera, for strange as it may seem to those acquainted with the strict Presbyterian notions of our demure and religious descendants of the old Cove-nanters, an Italian Opera has actually been established in their strenghold, and made to flourish during two consecutive seasons. This fact and the public admission of a "member of Kirk" candidate for the House of Commons that he would support a bill for educational reform in Scotland, even should it include the organization of Ro-man Catholic, or, as he calls shem. "Popish schools," may be regarded as a striking sign of the times-particu larly, too, when the admission alluded to is received by some four theusand black coated and white neck-tied electors with cheers and vociferous applause. An era of re-ligious toleration has actually commenced even here, and perfect freedom of opinion without established doc rines is openly advocated. s openly advocated.

At this particular moment, great interest is manifested

in regard to an approaching election to supply the place of the great historian, Macaulay, who, you are doubt esaware, has resigned his proud position as the representa-tive of Edinburg in the Imperial Parliament. The libe-rals have brought forward a Mr. Adam Black, an hones

tion that I have ever had the pleasure of littening to. One of the lectures was advertised to be on "American slavery," and consequently a large antismes was assembled. The lecturer, however, stated that the notice was given in error or the managers of the institute, and wisely declined to speak on the subject.

The citizens of Glasgiw have collected the sum of two hundred and firty guineas to procure a sword or honor for their gallant fellow townsman Gen. Sir Colin Campbell. The sword is to be made of fine Scottish steel, and the presentail in will probably take place in Glasgiw.

A statement is just published showing the extent of commerce of the port of Liverpool. The number of vessels arriving and departing thence during the year just closed, was 40,565; last year the number was 37,143.

Much excitement prevails throughout languard and Scottand in legard to frequently repeated poisonings, which are daily brought to light. In connection with this subject, I may mention a most distressing case of accidental poisening, which recently occurred in the highlands at Diagwall, Invernesshire. A Mr. Maclive had a party of frience dining with him; the cook required horseradish as an accompaniment to the roast beef, and sent a had to the garden to get it. It was grated, and sent as and to the garden to get it. It was grated, and sent a had to the garden to get it. It was grated, and sent and found that the root used was monkehood or wolfsbane, which was planted near the horsaradish, and been mistaken by the servants for that plant. Much simpathy is deservedly manifested for the unfortunate host, whose hopitality has thus been so fatal to his triends.

Our Antwerp Correspondence.

Antwerr, Dec. 29, 1855.

Description of Antwerp—I's Citadel and Fortifications—It. Description of Antwerp—Is Citade and Partifications—Its
Projected Docks—The New Transatiantic Line of Scamers
—Descriptions of the Vessels—Christening of the Belgique
by the Cardinal Archishop of Malines, &c.
The city of Antwerp is situated on the right bank of
the river Scheldt, at about fifty-five miles from its mouth,
where it empties into the North Sea. The river has seve-

where it empties into the North Sea. The river has several entrances, passes and outlets, the principal of which is that where Flushing is situated. Opposite this town is the general anchorage for sill vessels destined to Antwerp, where they generally wait for a favorable wind or steam towboats to take them up. The country on both sides of the river, as far up as the city, is flat—a perfect and uninterrupted continuation of low lands and marshes—very unhealthy, producing these local fevers which often prove fatal to strangers. Near Baltz, a small village on the right bank, is the boundary separating Holland from Belgium. This point is about twenty-four miles from the city; the line crosses the river in the direction of Ghent. right bank, is the boundary separating housing from the city; the line crosses the river in the direction of Ghent, near which, by a sudden turn, it strikes the sea a little to the north of the small village of Blankenberg, in West Flanders. The Scheldt, from its mouth up to the city, and above, is deep, and navigable at all seasons for the largest vessels and ships of war. The cheanel, however, is crooked, and in many places very narrow and obstructed with shoels, which at low water are often dangerous to vessels coming up or going down the river. The average rise of the tide is from eight to twelve feet; the spring tides often rise from tweive to eightsen feet. Antwerp, with the exception of a few small squares, comonred to other cities of the same size, is very compactly built, with a great number of crooked narrow streets and dark lanes, badly paved and most of them devoid of sidewalks; the houses, generally speaking—for but few modern improvements have as yet been made—are of a peculiar and curiotif old style, with small, low, narrow windows, from three to seven stories, the fronts in the old Fiemiah fantastical architecture, forming a point and uniting at the top. In these old, dilapidated and dirty houses, wanting air and space, live together, crowded to excess, the working, he low, the poor and the most beggarly class of the population.

ar and space, live together, crowded to excess, the working, the low, the poor and the most beggarly class of the population.

The front of the city situated on the river forms a fine and spacious "quoi" or wharf, extending from the northern point beyond the docks to the southern, and where is ittuated the Citadel, which commands the city, and in shich old Baron Chasse made such a glorious detences against the French in 1832. From this point (the Citadel) begin the old fortifications, with their walls and double ditches, and extending back of the town to the northern point on the river, as expressed above. The city is entered by means of seven or eight old messive gates, with their "poni levis" or drawbridges. The city is divided into five sections, four for the inside, and one—the fith—for the outside. The approach to these fortifications and to the city is defended by what is called the "detached forts," situated beyond the fith section, and at certain distrances from each other. From the river, the city is covered by the forts called "Lillo," the "North," and on the opposite bank by earthern works and the baction at the "lete de Fiantice," a small village in East Flanders.

The docks are situated at the northern end of the city's There are two, connected by a bridge. At the cest of these docks is the "Entrepot Royal," or government warehouses. The two docks are insufficient—too small for the rapidly increasing trade of the city, and the grean number of reasels visiting it. Taking this into serious consideration, the Town Council has already appropriated and voted nearly two millions of frames for the construction of deep and spasious new docks. This imment of work will begin early in the spring.

Antworp (intra mure) contains about 100,000 souls; the fifth section (extru mures) has 20,000—making a total of one hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants, or thereabouts. The foreign population is principally composed of German, Dutch, some Danas and fweder. There are but few French or English in Antwerp.

The screw steamship Belgique, which carries this letter, is the first vessel of the "Transatlantic North American Company's line." She was constructed by contract in Helland. She is of fron, and of about 2,500 tone. Here speed, from two practical essays she has made, has, it is said, proved satisfactory. She is altogether a beautiful and noble ship. She is under the command of Capt. Tack, a very politic and gentlemanilize man, possessing high qualities, who has seen a great deal of service, and who is a lieutemant in the royal neary. God agoed here on this, her first yorage. The company's second ship is the Constitution, also of iron, and built in Holland, and expected here in a few days. She will follow the Begique. The Leopold the First, constructed in this place, is in the Goult and made and the second and greating ready to follow the Constitution as soon as possible. The Dake of Brabant (named after Ring Leopold's elect son, and the heir presumptive to the crown) is the fourth ship, and is still on the stocks. She is nearly finished, and will soon be issuehed. The keel of a 2ft's ship, and the lant, is about to be laid at the ship works. The Transatlantic North American line will

The Effect of the Peace News in Rome—The Holy Futher Jubilant on the Subject-Russia's Interest in Concluding Hostilities for the Present-Mr. Allmore's Movements in Raly-Interesting Religious Ceremony-"The Blessing of Animals"-The Carnival-Assassinatims-Political Parties in Italy-Prospect of a New Concordat Between

the King of Sardinia and the Pape.

When a few days ago the Giornale di Roma brought a telegraphic despatch from Paris stating that Russia had accepted the Austrian ultimatum without alteration, there were many men who placed entire confidence in the report, and among them were the entire corps diplom stique. Peace is so generally desired all over Europe, and especially by every government of Italy, all of which are more or less, if not in a state of revolution, at least in a condition which threatens revolction at every step, that nothtion which threatens revolution at every step, that nothing but the complete pacification of Surope can impart to them some sense of security. The Holy Pather, so recently triumphant in his Concordat with Austria, and guarded as he is by French troops, has nothing more at heart than the re-establishment of friendly relations between the Catholic Powers and the head of the Greek. Church, which has of late shown itself so conditatory to the Catholic clergy of Poland. The Austrian and French Ministers here are on the best terms and coincide in their views of peace entire y with the government of the Holy See, while neither a British nor a Sardinian ambassador

the news of peace, however, must be taken with a grain of rait, though, as I have expressed in all my previous letters, Austria is really preparing, in case of refusal by Russia, to place the matter before the German Diet of Russia, to place the matter or or or public opinion Frankfort, in order to bring the power of public opinion in Germany to bear on Prussia, while the latter power, the shades sacrificed national politics to family aware that she has sacrificed national politics to family relations with the Car, is using all her influence at St. Petersburg to prevent as glaring a manifestation of op-position to her views in Germany itself. The steps which Austria threatens to take in Frankfort, and which she has already publicly announced, have undoubtedly had their due weight in Russia, and go still further to destroy the oid pentarchy by which Europe was governed previous to the commencement of the present war. Austria ris, and it is for this reason principally that she, as the great Catholic Power of Germany, has con-cluded the concordat with the Pope. That concordat recures to Austria the athesion of the Catholic provinces of the Rhine and of Westphalia, both which are sufficiently alienated from the old Brandenburg party of Prussia, to make their government by that power an easy task. Austria was determined to carry the war into Africa—that is, to turn once more prapegandist, in a religious and political sense, in Germany proper. She had nothing to hope from the Protestant party who (with the exception of the King of Wurtenberg), look upon the King of Pressla as their leader, and those provinces which formerly acknowledged her supremacy and that of her religion. Austria in her foreign policy is now fully backed by Bavaria and Saxony, and in case of actual collision she could count on the sympa-

The difficulty of the present position seems to be fully appreciated by Mr. Von Manteuffel in Berlin, and he it is, undoubtefly, who has used every effort of late to induse peace as should be deemed honorable to the Char and acceptable to the ailies. Any terms of that and acceptable to the allies. Any terms of that
nature must, of course, express or imply on the
part of Russia a renunciation of her aggressive
policy in regard to Turkey; and here exactly
lies the difficulty with the Czar. A renunsiation
of that policy towards furkey, expressed or implied,
is against the historical traditions and hereditary policy
of Russia, and may serve to weaken the Czar, in a rediof Russia, and may serve to weaken the Crar, in a religious as well as a political sense, with his own subjects. It would certainly be a severe blow to the old Muscovite party, and may lead, if not to revolution, at least to a change in the person of the autotrat. The war, which at its commencement was chiefly one of material interest, has by degrees become a matter of domestic necessity to the rolling Powers of France, England and Russia, and this situation of things, more than the actual comditions contained in the accelled Austrian all frattaments. and this situation of things, more than the actual con-ditions contained in the so-called Austrian utilinatum, presents the principal obstacle to the conclusion of a substantial and lasting peace. Russia may yield to the coalition now forming against her; but between receiving certain corditions as the basis of negotiations and actu

substantial and lasting peace. Russis may yield to the coalition now forming against ber; but between receiving ceitain corditions as the basis of negotiations and actually signing or agreeing to preliminaries, there is still a very great difference. On the other hand, Russis, by concluding peace now, will be scener able to repair her losses and to take advantage of any event that may occur likely to loosen the present alliance between the Westera Powers. She would still have the in her tavor, which must develops and increase her power, while the Oriental problem would still remain unsolved, and Turkey not only "very sick," but in the actual progress of apontaneous decomposition. If Russis according a peace now, abe will, no doubt, do so with a mental reservation that she will achere to its terms only as long as dreumstances will compel har to do so in other words, as long as the coalition exists which prevents her from seizing upon Turkey.

If peace is now made, it will be the wish of the Emperor Napoleon. It is he who conceived, some three months ago, the idea of presenting conditions in forms, through the medium of Austria, and as masters them stood there was every reason to suppose that these propositions would at once be accepted. I do not like a speak authoritatively on any subject; but I do not exaggerate when I say there were men in Paris and Yienna, (I am not quite sure there were such in London,) who were perfectly contineed beforehand that Russis would offer her hand to a reconciliation with France. This induced me to speak with so much considence of approaching peace in my letters to the Hanato, though I have since felt a little less confidence in the assus ayeasi.

One thing I will now wenter to predict, and it trust your million of readers will sitck a pin into it—that if the war continues, Russis will, in the end, see hersalf opposes by all Europe. Not only will Austria not side with Russis, in Rurege at all acquainted with the attuation, considered for one moment as likely to take place, but Aus